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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : THE FILE

DATE: July 20, 1976

FROM : Jack Fuller

SUBJECT: Kennedy Assassination Materials

I had a meeting today with Jim Johnston, a Church Committee staff member. Also present were Bob Keuch of the Criminal Division and Ed Kneedler of the Office of Legal Counsel.

Mr. Johnston had asked for the meeting so that he could discuss what jurisdiction, if any, the Department of Justice had with regard to the assassination of President Kennedy. During the meeting Mr. Johnston said the Church Committee had developed information of three general sorts with respect to the assassination of President Kennedy beyond what was published in the Committee report. The three areas of information are as follows:

1. Information pertaining to possible decisions by federal officials not to be entirely candid with the Warren Commission.

2. Information pertaining to contacts between Lee Harvey Oswald and anti-Castro groups.

3. Information concerning plots by the U.S. government against Castro which have had some relation to the assassination.

Mr. Johnston was not detailed in his descriptions of any of this information.

I told him that the Department of Justice had jurisdiction to investigate all aspects of the assassination of President Kennedy. I said that it was imperative that any information pertaining to the assassination of President Kennedy in the possession of the Senate Intelligence Committee (which now possesses the Church Committee files) must be turned over formally by the Committee or the Committee Chairman to the Department of Justice. I told him that now

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that the Department of Justice was on notice with respect to this evidence, the Department will have to insist that the evidence be turned over. I also said that informal arrangements in this matter would not be appropriate.

Mr. Johnston said he would recommend that Senator Gary Hart urge that the Senate Intelligence Committee to turn over the materials formally. Mr. Johnston said he would get back in touch with me or in my absence with Bob Keuch.